"Friend of Lithuania in Kolkata"

The Antanas Poška Recognition Record (2014–2019)

Compiled entirely from verified public sources
Dedicated to the enduring friendship between Lithuania and India

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Archival Overview

This dossier presents verified correspondence, institutional documentation, and media reports relating to the recognition of Lithuanian traveller Antanas Poška by the University of Calcutta in 2014 and subsequent developments through 2019.

It reproduces official letters from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania and the University of Calcutta, alongside verified Lithuanian and Indian media sources (*LRT, Delfi, Bernardinai, Alkas, Vilnius University, The Telegraph India*).

All materials are drawn from publicly accessible records and preserved here for permanent reference as part of the documented cultural and academic relations between Lithuania and India.

Executive Summary

In 2014, working in close cooperation with the Embassy of Lithuania in India,
Mr. Arvind Kumar Sukhani (Arvind Sukhani) facilitated the posthumous conferment of an Honorary Doctor of Letters (D.Litt. Honoris Causa) upon Lithuanian traveller Antanas Poška by the University of Calcutta.

In an official letter dated 5 December 2014, the then Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, H.E. Linas Linkevičius, wrote:

> **"Please accept my sincere gratitude for your kind and valuable efforts to honour the memory of the Lithuanian traveler and anthropologist Antanas Poška. Your determination and hard work highly contributed to ensuring the smooth process of conferring the posthumous doctorate to Antanas Poška by the Calcutta University."**
>
> **This letter constitutes the formal acknowledgment by the Government of Lithuania of Mr. Sukhani's contribution to the successful completion of the Poška honorary degree process, prior to his subsequent appointment as the Honorary Consul of Lithuania in Kolkata.**

Chronology & Verified Sources

22 May 2014 – University of Calcutta – Vice-Chancellor's Letter
Type: Academic Record
Key Extract: "The above was communicated to your local representative Mr. Arvind Sukhani at my office in person today."
Access: Official letter signed by Professor Suranjan Das, Vice-Chancellor, University of Calcutta *(Scan PDF marked Annexure 1).*

29 November 2014 – Bernardinai.lt
Type: National Media
Key Extract: "Calcutta University honours the famous Lithuanian traveller Antanas Poška."
Access: https://www.bernardinai.lt/2014-11-29-kalkutos-universitetas-pagerbe-garsu-lietuviu-keliautoja/

5 December 2014 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania – Linas Linkevičius
Type: Government Letter
Key Extract: "…your determination and hard work highly contributed to ensuring the smooth process of conferring the posthumous doctorate to Antanas Poška by the Calcutta University."
Access: Official MFA letter *(Scan PDF marked Annexure 2).*

8 December 2014 – Vilnius University (VU.lt)
Type: Academic Publication
Key Extract: "Calcutta University awarded Lithuanian Antanas Poška a posthumous Doctor Honoris Causa."
Access: https://www.vu.lt/en/news-events/news/cu-awards-lithuanian-antanas-poska-with-a-posthumous-doctorate

9 December 2014 – Alkas.lt
Type: Cultural Media
Key Extract: "…as well as to a great friend of Lithuania in Kolkata, Mr. Arvind Sukhani. Thanks to their help, the procedure for awarding the honorary doctorate to A. Poška was successful."
Access: https://alkas.lt/2014/12/09/antanui-poskai-suteiktas-kalkutos-universiteto-garbes-daktaro-vardas/

17 January 2015 – The Telegraph India
Type: Indian Media
Key Extract: "Ambassador Laimonas Talat-Kelpša and Arvind Sukhani at the unveiling of a plaque to honour Antanas Poška at the University of Calcutta library."
Access: https://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/tribute-to-baltic-scholar/cid/1609518

18 February 2016 – Embassy of Lithuania in India / MFA Record
Type: Government Communication
Key Extract: "Close ties between Kolkata and the Lithuanian Embassy in New Delhi have visibly increased mainly thanks to Mr. Sukhani's active efforts."
Access: https://in.mfa.lt/en/about-us/honorary-consuls/news/139/lithuania-opens-its-first-honorary-consulate-in-kolkata-third-in-india:736

4 April 2017 – Delfi.lt (English Edition)
Type: National Media
Key Extract: "Over the last three years Mr. Sukhani and the Lithuanian Embassy have arranged a number of important events in Kolkata to promote public awareness about Lithuania."
Access: https://www.delfi.lt/en/politics/india-and-lithuania-celebrate-their-personal-bond-with-kolkata-at-the-heart-of-it-74256518

26 February 2019 – The Telegraph India
Type: Indian Media
Key Extract: "Duo retrace route of Lithuanian Antanas Poška who travelled to Calcutta 90 years ago."
Access: https://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/duo-retrace-route-of-lithuanian-antanas-poska-who-travelled-to-calcutta-90yrs-ago/cid/1685822

Verification & Provenance

All URLs cited above are publicly accessible and archived where possible.
Suggested search keywords: *Arvind Sukhani Antanas Poška*, *Poška Calcutta*, *Poska Kolkata honorary doctorate*, *Lithuania Kolkata Poška.*

This dossier compiles only material already available in the public domain — from verified institutional, governmental, and media sources — and is preserved solely for documentation and reference purposes.

About This Document

This record highlights the contribution of Mr. Arvind Kumar Sukhani, described in Lithuanian media as *"a great friend of Lithuania in Kolkata,"* whose collaboration with the Embassy of Lithuania in India helped establish enduring academic and cultural links between the two nations.